



THE NEWSPAPER OF FIRST BATTALION PRINCESS PATRICIA'S CANADIAN LIGHT INFANTRY

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No. 1

CHANGE OF COMMAND PARADE



Message from the Commanding Officer



You all know that except for time spent on exercises life in the battalion in Canada is a relatively routine affair. The day starts when the sun comes up ends when it goes down — nothing particularly startling about that. Not so here in Cyprus — here we have six months without any of the domestic hassle — dishes, drapes, garbage etc, etc (thanks to our wives, girlfriends and others who are looking after such things in our absence). This "isolation" presents us with an ideal opportunity to get to know each other and practice our profession 24 hours a day while doing a worthwhile job. It might sound hammy, but damm it, its not an opportunity that comes often enough.

This regiment, as you have probably heard has a fine reputation on the island established by our own and two sister battalions during previous tours. Its up to us to ensure we enhance this high opinion others have of our capabilities.

After the novelty wears off (for those of you on OP duty that probably took about 45 minutes) there is a tendency in some cases to permit boredom to dictate your feelings. Just remember the old UN addage "when its quiet you are doing your job — when

things heat up perhaps its because some minor aspect of peace-keeping wasn't done right."

There are plenty of things to do both military and nonmilitary off duty to help kill the time — Get in the best shape of your life — lose a few pounds — quit smoking (not terribly exciting but beneficial) — anything that will turn that decrepit body into something your wife, girlfriend or other is going to have a hard time resisting between the airport and CFB Calgary come October. Lets face it what other profession gives you six months on a Mediterranean Island to get in shape.

Equally important to our doing a good job over the next six months is the requirement that we ultimately return to Canada on our own two feet.

No one is to leave here in a pine box or on a stretcher. Take care of yourself and your buddies and anyone else in the unit for that matter — that what makes this soldering game worthwhile — our concern for each other. Don't let anyone or anything interfere with basic truth.

THE IVORY TOWER - JOC

Welcome to the rock! After a very successful handover by the RCR, we are now firmly in control. The RCR pulled pole on 3 April and since then the "heart of the Battalion" has been doing their best to better them, ably led by Captain R.C.

Newman the Operations Officer and Officer Commanding Headquarters Company.

Congratulations are also in order to MWO Moeller who changes hats every half hour. Some of his minor functions include, CSM HQ Coy, Battalion QMSI, CANCON WOs' and Sgts' Mess PMC, and Supervising Officer Ledra WOs' and Sgts' Mess. Having a restful tour?

"TWO FOR A PENNY"

Did you ever wonder where that set of binoculars came from? How about that helmet or flak jacket? Sure, we all know that it came from the taxpayers but the people that finally see that it gets to you is your friendly Coy (screw the troops we're too full to move)



quartermaster staff. Seeing this is the first chapter of the saga of HQ Coy stores, while we are "on the rock", I would like to introduce you to the trio of bandits who make up stores. Leading this outfit is WO "Drop Short Gerry" Lee. WO Lee came to us from Mortar Platoon around Jan 15 to take the bull by the horns — up to now he hasn't encountered any situation he hasn't been able to cope with. Assisting WO Lee is Cpl "Scotty" Turner. Scotty is new at this job so you'll have to excuse him if you have to repeat something 5 or 6 times and the answer you get back is "Wait until the CQ comes back and I'll ask him." Last but not least, we have MCpl Ernie "Junior Samples" Smith. Smitty takes every task with a grain of salt and the answer that is usually heard is "***** Him".

Despite these reprobates, miracles are already staring to happen — only last Friday, Smitty got out and ran 3 miles. Keep up the good work Smitty. Before closing this off I would like to mention MCpl "Brian The Grind" Steele. Brian was a great help to us while we were preparing to come to Cyprus even over here we don't know whether Brian is still with us or is the "Ops Os" driver/gear grinder because he always makes a daily appearance around our stores.

Till next time when the second "Chapter of this saga comes to you, don't bug us."

RECCE RECCONING

Greetings from the eyes and ears. After much humming, hawing and sampling of local culture, Recce has settled into a routine. In fact, some of us even know the way to BBC, eh Spider.

Lt Pentney and WO Szpitun

have patiently brought the platoon from jet lag to peak efficiency. The platoon is now operating at full tilt on all patrols and ready for any assigned duties.

Speaking of local culture, a few points have been noticed by the watchful eye; the need to watch for low flying belly dancers; and the wearing of swim suits in the pool area is a ne-

cessity.

Around Ledra Palace, the Junior Ranks Club, blossoming under the steady hands of MCPL "Skinny" Conniff and his committee is fast becoming the number one (read: cheapest) place about town, with movies, TV and other assorted entertainment.

Well thats all from the polson pen, be back at a later date.

OOPS! NFO

Ops Info here with a few points for the people who have just arrived on Main 1 and 2. First if you want any graphic art work done you will have to wait until Cpl Polupski draws himself a bigger tasking board! Secondly, no we can't get or draw a trace of Raquel Welch, and thirdly, who ever took my wife out of my barrack box and put in those training pams, — I'll get you!!!!

The Ops Info Section is off

and running here in Cyprus. All sorts of various tasking are keeping us working at a fast pace. This is Wolsley Barracks guys not BBC! If things stay as they are, the section is sure to have an interesting and rewarding tour in Cyprus. The Section consists of Lt R Romes, MCpl B Pirie, MCpl K Parker, Cpl K Polupski, Cpl P Wells and the unit photographer MCpl K Archer. Well, we hope to see and work with you all over the next six months so until the next issue keep those Info Summaries coming!

DOCTORS ON THE GO

On 3 April 1978, Capt Norm Shore, Medical Officer with the First Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, stationed in Calgary took over the duties of the CANCON doctor. He took over from Capt Elwood MacMullin, the Medical Officer with the Second Battalion Royal Canadian Regiment, stationed in Gagetown.

Both doctors were born in Glace Bay, Nova Scotia, they both trained at the same medical school, Dalhousie University, and they started practicing their profession in the Canadian Forces in 1977.

ALPHA Company's alphabet



SWEATHOG'S GRUNT

Well 1 Platoon all arrived, tired to say the least and everyone got settled into their rooms.

Far cry from B-8 eh guys, but it looks like everyone loves the pool. Shift changes were a little hectic at first but everybody seems to be adjusting. The Sweathogs are starting to feel at home on the OPs: they're all making like Picassos and Rembrandts or at least they think they are. You're liable to find them fighting over who's next on the brush at 5 AM on the graveyard shift! Hang in there fellas. "Hungry" and "Dirty book" keep the humor up on Omorphita with their broken-english and crazy antics. Over on OP Maple 1 the boys are quite intrigued with their extra observation duties — Everyone was wondering what those black rings were around your eyes fellas!! The boys on Bastion

just love their evacuation route but aren't too impressed with the rappelling aspect of it — It's quite the wall. Sgt Savoie returned to the Sweathogs after completing his couth course, nobody's noticed a change yet but then you've got to keep up the image "eh Sarge". Our faithful leader and Wild Man Stan can be seen cruising the area checking out the sights and ringing the bell. The Turks and Greeks are probably still trying to figure out what that big blue beret with the two little legs and MCpl stripes is walking on the line occasionally. All and all things seem to be running smoothly within the ranks of the Sweathogs and the OPs are looking great since the cleanup. Due to sunny conditions the boys are really taking the part of "Red Devils". It seems more than fitting eh guys.

**REMEMBER
THE
RSM
IS
ALIVE AND WELL
AND
LOOKING FOR
YOU!!!**

★ ★ ★

**GET READY
FOR THE
CAN CON
LIZARD RACES!
DATES
TO BE
ANNOUNCED**

FIGHTING SECOND BATTLE CRY

Here in Cyprus at the Ledra Palace, alias CFB Hollywood land of pools, beaches and sunburns, is located the fighting Second of A Coy (already high in casualties with many of us sitting and walking very carefully). A fortune is to be made in suntan lotion. As for duties, they're just as any self-respecting banker would have them. The drivers here are having a Hay-day, "Sputter, Sputter". Our Platoon driver was asked to comment on road conditions unfortunately he would only say "Vroom vroom" signaled a left turn and trotted off. Actually if the truth be known the only thing that gets tired is the right arm from saluting all moving objects with wheels or pedals. However, several people, Ptes in particular, are not saluting as in the case of Pte "Beach Bum" Rathbone who has suffered the finest and first sunburn when he fell asleep on duty trying to teach Pte "Glug Glug" Carnon how to swim. So without any more dishearted things to tell you poor freezing people we of the fighting Second say Aloha from CFB Hollywood land of love and sunburns.

THREE ON THE GO

....as the sweet aroma of honeysuckle fills your lungs and your OP shakes in the wind, the mournful, gruesome sound of tortured babies (cats) shrieks through the rooster calls of the night.... (from the upcoming book "Life and times of an OP observer"). 3 Platoon has been lapping up the Cyprus sun and their lobster-like bodies can be found lounging around the pool in various shades ranging from "Preston" pink to "Sillers scarlet. Meanwhile there seems to be a major musical conflict in

the Jr Rks between "Dolly Dan" Holst and "Rolling Stone" Regan. The boys over at Camp Kronberg commonly referred as CFB Hollywood, are peering out of OP Irish Bridge through a multitude of snazzy sunglasses and looking very cool. Our drivers are setting standards unsurpassed by former UN personnel. "Oral" Atchinson is trying to convert the 2 Platoon population to the way of God, while Pte Dave "gear grinder" Doyle scares the wrath of God into the shift changes and the odd native he happens to bump into. Watch those cats.

GRUMBLINGS FROM THE BASEMENT

Now that we are all on this sunny island in the middle of the Mediterranean called Cyprus, Sig section has taken up hiding in a small corner of the basement we call a CP. Once we had learn the ropes, our new CP will run a lot smoother than it did back in Canada on "Exercise Green Line". The purpose of "Ex Green Line" was to work out all the bugs in the

system, however, it did take a couple of days of coaching to get the OPs to get over their "Mike" shyness. When not on duty, if you look around the pool, you will find us trying to get a tan that will match the soldiers on the OPs who are always out in the sun and seem to forget the guys hard at work in the dark CP.

**SMILE
SOMEONE
LOVES YOU**



B COY REPORT FROM THE DUST BOWL — CML

A SOLDIER'S FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF KYPROS (CYPRUS)

The island of love is a great distance away from our Rocky Mountain home. Fourteen hours at 600 MPH, at an altitude of 33,000 feet to be exact; not to mention the countless sore posteriors acquired en route. A piper from the Royal Canadian Regiment greeted us with familiar PPCLI regimental marches — a nice touch.

Well, the very next things that 5 platoon experienced were the exquisite odours and majestic landscapes of OP Turkey Farm, among which are Monument Hill, the slaughter house and a dump. Oh yes, the chicken farm to the north and the pig farm far to

the west do make substantial contributions to the overall atmosphere.

OP Richman and Checkpoint Foxtrot offer all of the comforts of CFB Calgary, including the Military Police.

Shiftwork is long and tedious and often followed by camp improvement tasks like cutting back the weeds and painting rocks. As a result CML is looking better.

The island is most photogenic, although the local population is rather hard to communicate with, however, they are always pleasant and eager to help you learn the language of their land.

The term "Ski Louise" is quite familiar, but how does "Ski Olympus" sound? Last Saturday afternoon, the Cyprus chapter of the "Home of the Gods" hosted 3 members of 5

platoon. The Troodos ski slopes, definitely one of the highest and most picturesque parts of the island, offered a fairly short run, large moguls, slushy snow and one heck of a good time. But alas, the ski season ended Sunday. Baseball, running and the JRC are other recreational activities. Archery, photography, Scuba diving and other clubs are to soon appear. They will also be a welcome addition to Camp Maple Leaf.

Well, what more can I say? It's home for now.

FLASHING FOURS

Amidst all the wind, rain and sunshine, four platoon has successfully landed in Cyprus. We accepted our share of the operational duties from 2 RCR on the fourth of April.

While Lt Fredrickson and the senior NCOs fight through the paperwork and the scheduling of duties, our beloved privates have been busy this past week keeping a watchful eye on the Greeks and the Turks at OPs Royal and Lizard.

So far, no one has any complaints about their new six month home, except for those who ventured out into the sun for too long.

The boys have already been amused by the feature downtown attraction and their antics — our sincere 'friends' the whiskey dummies.

That's about it from 4 platoon except our congratulations to MCpl McLean who received his promotion while we were on embarkation leave.

HAVE ARRIVED!



THE PATRICIA'S



On the evening of Saturday 1 April, Colonel C.V. Carlson, Comd CANCON, and representatives of all Contingents in UNFICYP joined in welcoming LCol MacKenzie and 1PPCLI to sunny Cyprus, and in bidding LCol MacPherson and 2RCR farewell and a safe trip back to Canada. Cocktails were served in the lobby and at the patio of the Ledra Palace Hotel and later a buffet and dance were enjoyed at the Wolseley Barracks' Mess.

The Hand That Feeds You

SUPER SIX

After taking over the western half of CanCon Sector 4 from H Coy 2 RCR, the company began the task of carrying on the cleaning up of Camp Maple Leaf while also attending to the manning of six observation posts.

The long hours on OP duty have not broken down the alert concentration of the men. Due to the trained observation of 'Eagle Eye' Cpl 'Whipper' Watson, we have broken the famous Cypriot Laundry Code. Those men not slated for OP duty are kept busy in the company reserve.

The fearless men in company reserve have volunteered their time to help improve camp conditions. Besides beating off wild beasts such as lizards and sunails, they built a patio fence for the Junior Ranks Club; unfortunately the winds of Cyprus had the gall to blow down the walls 14 hours later.

A quick report from Sigs shows MCpl White and boys busy patrolling through the local minefields in an attempt to keep the communications between the OPs and Camp Maple Leaf in working order. It is because of their strong devotion to duty that the communications have functioned with a minimum of difficulty.

As the company gets over the settling-in phase, we can look forward to more training in which we can get ready for the annual classification and battle efficiency runs.

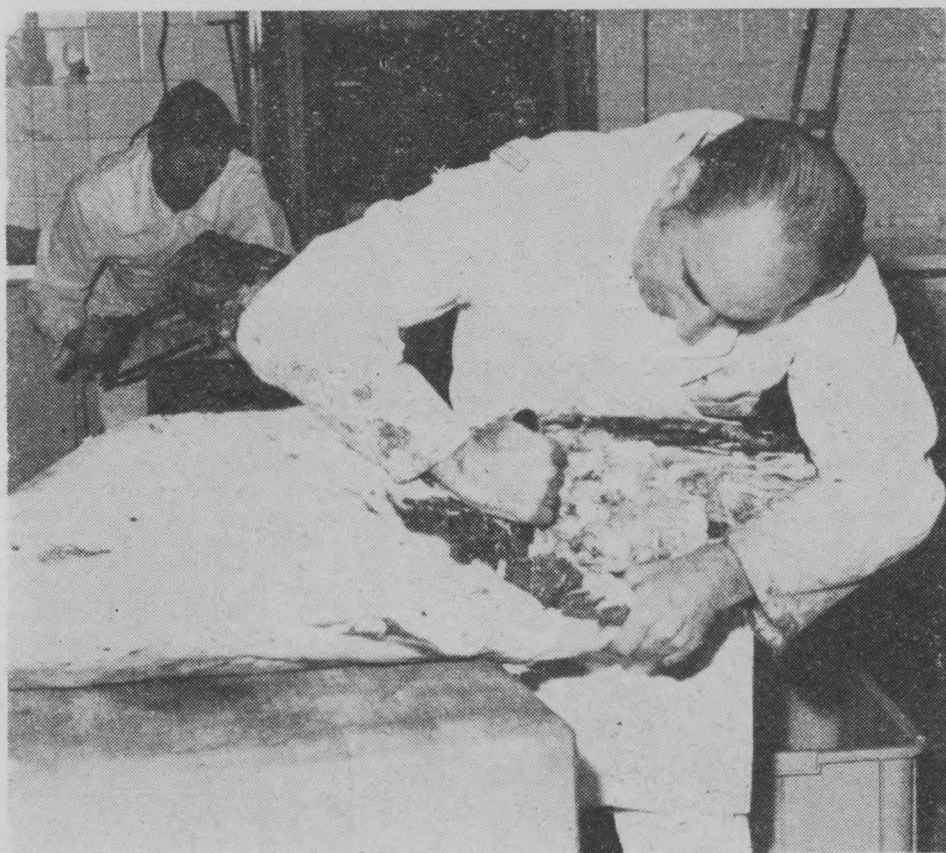


B Coy "just arrived"





Cooks Pass Hygiene Test



Say Ahhh?

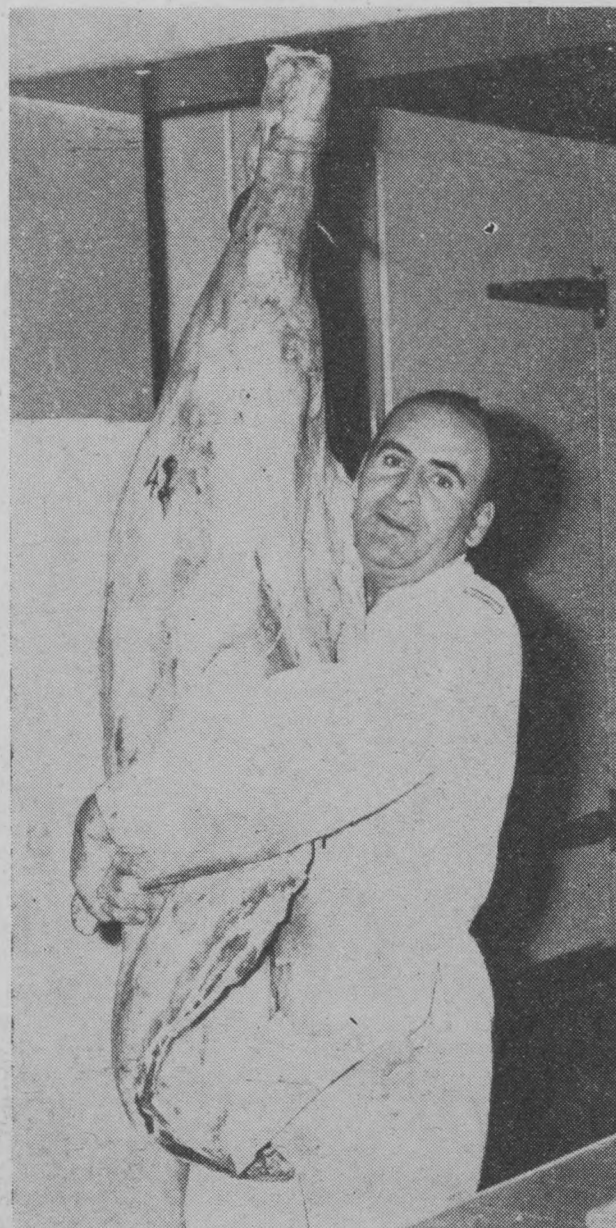
WANTED

JOKES — CARTOONS — POEMS

but most of all — ARTICLES

FOR YOUR PAPER

All of you are invited to
send them to your Coy Rep.



Don't tell my wife

FIRST SIGNAL HOME

**TO
CFB CALGARY,
CURRIE PMQS,
LINCOLN PARK,
SARCEE FROM
WOLSELEY BARRACKS
NICOSIA CYPRUS
INFO ALL PMQ RANGERS
BT**

LO LO LO good buddies tis time to don your headsets and receive the Sigs PI happenings.

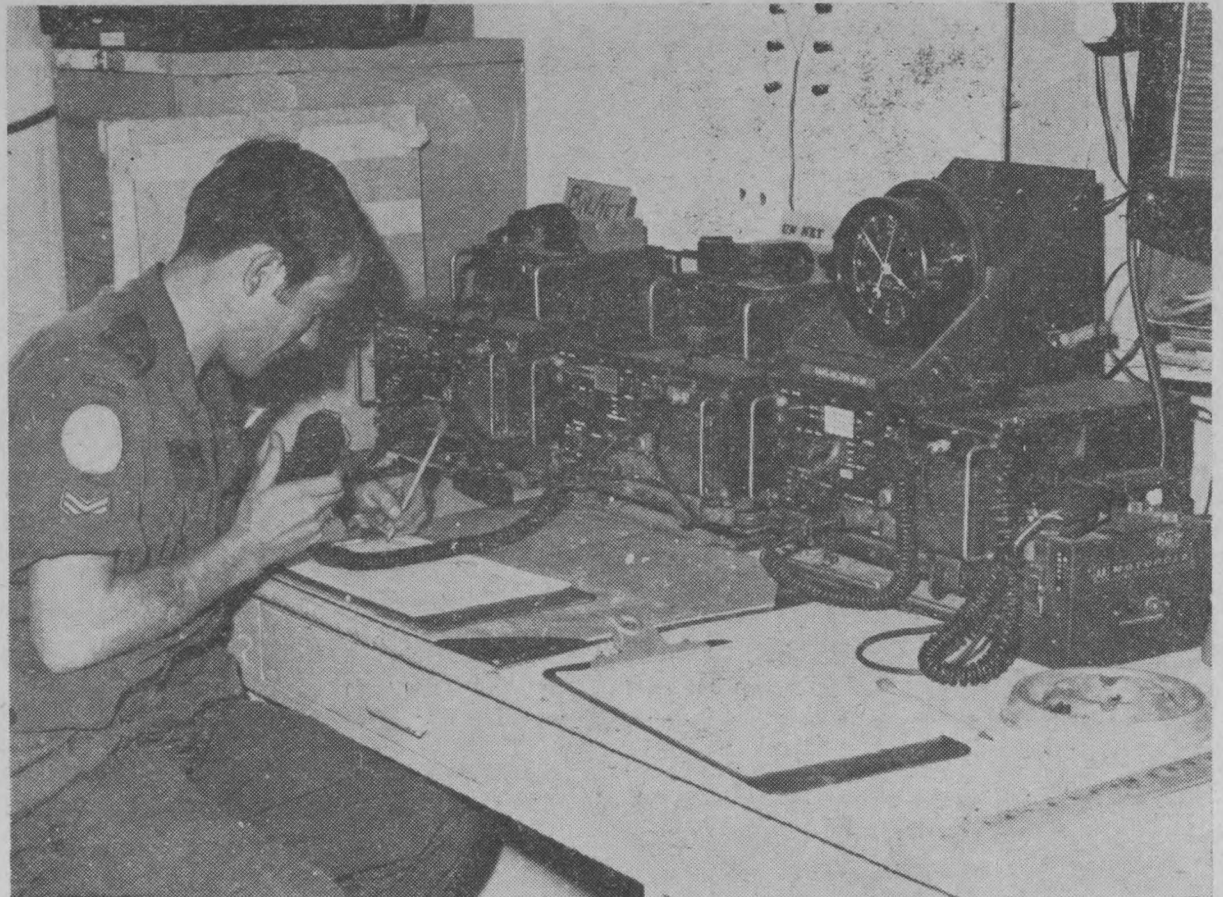
Since last we wrote a 14 hour plane ride, 3 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 1 supper, 1 late lunch and 9 time zones have come between us. Sigs PI has vacated AF 16 for the sunny shores of Cyprus.

The advance party members arrived to a standing ovation, as our RCR hosts quickly packed their bags to beat a hasty departure.

An interesting feature of the arrival in Cyprus is the 2 hour bus ride -from the airport in Akrotiri. Once again it goes to show one that economy travel often leaves something to be desired.

The first week was spent getting acquainted with our new jobs, equipment, driving Cyprus style and the water. The weather although not too splendid did its best to warm the boon.

On the 4th we saw the departure of the RCRS and the arrival of the Sigs' PI main body. The PI spent its first day trying to adjust to the jet lag and frequent utterances of "JEEZ do you know what time it is in Canada" were heard. The following day the training and familiarization commenced. The Line Crews' on-the-job training started as every creaking cable on the Island decided it was



time to pack it in. The Comm Cen Crew had a new experience called CYTA in the form of a semi-automatic switchboard and a land line teletype. Being somewhat unfamiliar with the teletype there were several calls for the local Sigs Rep. e.g. "God I don't know what happened Cpl all of a sudden it started banging away and that white ribbon came out its mouth". But leave it to professionalism in a week the crew has tamed the savage beast, although the speed is not as

great as the spirit is.

Meanwhile the sigs stores is in the process of moving and issuing at the same time, fortunately we have a guy like M/Cpl John Burke who has round heels and is Max Flex.

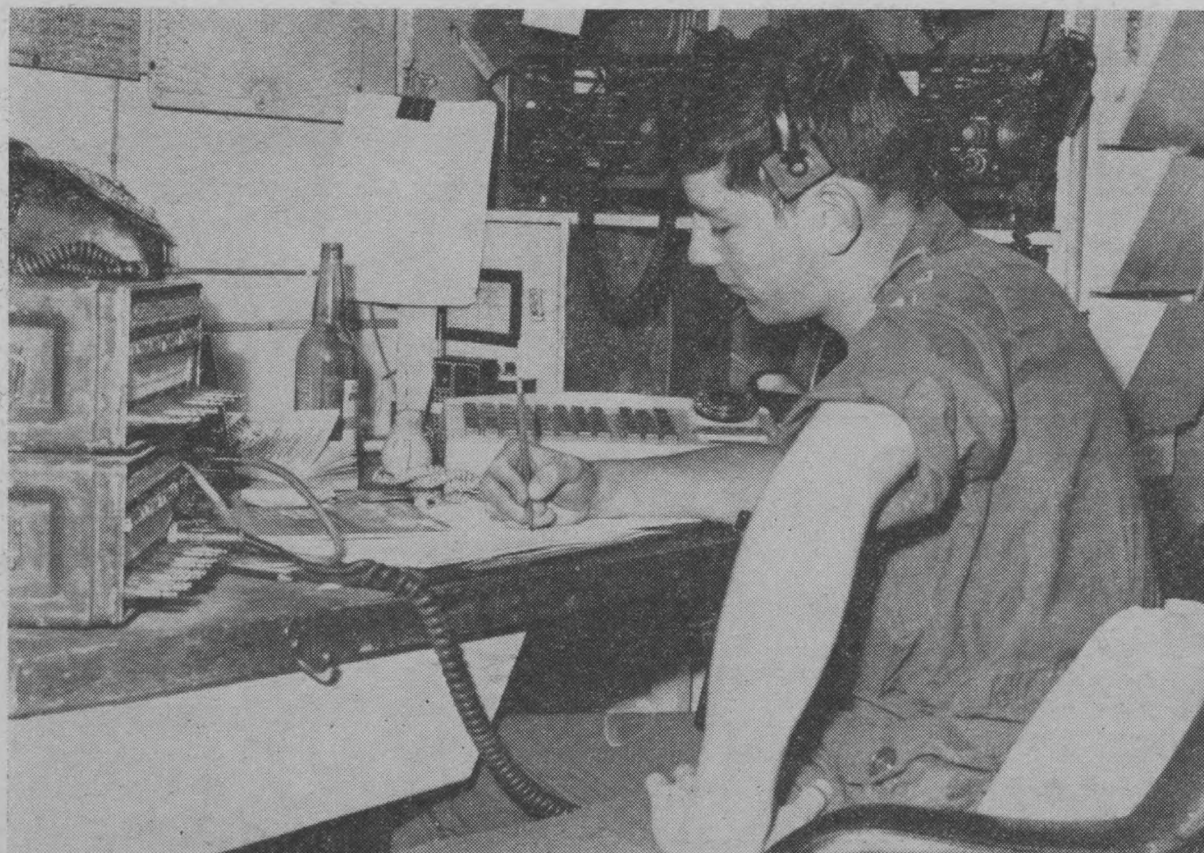
At the same time, Byron Fletchers line crew wants a mine detector to help lay cable.

Out on the SDS Cpl Garry Keller is busy getting the mail delivered, no postal codes or union but the service is great.

Back at the CommCen the local Sigs Rep M/Cpl Gary Brown is busy hacking at the umbilical cord between him and the CommCen. While Brown escapes Cpl Bill McCowan is getting fitted with the harness so he can pull the team.

At the helm Capt Mike Hanrahan is busy studying for his upcoming exams, if you don't pass Sir you get a six month extension.

That's it for this Sitrep, more to follow B.C.N.U.



**WANT TO
SPEAK TO
YOUR
SWEETHEART**

?

**CONTACT
THE
SIGNALS**

OR

USE THE PHONE

— dial direct —

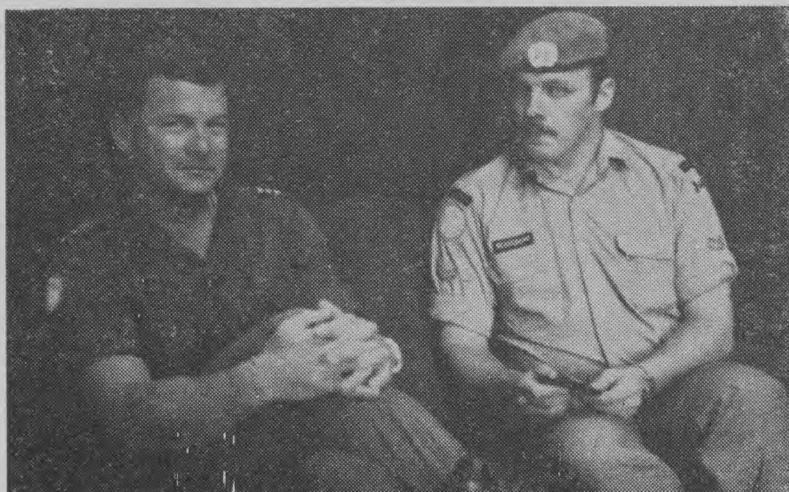
PROMOTIONS—PROMOTIONS



Cpl Kelly
BY THE FLAG POLE



Sgt Jackson
PROMOTION ON THE WING



MCpl Beanchamp
SITTING PROMOTION



MCpl Steel
POSING PROMOTION

Signing Over of Command



Lets get it right this time

INCREP

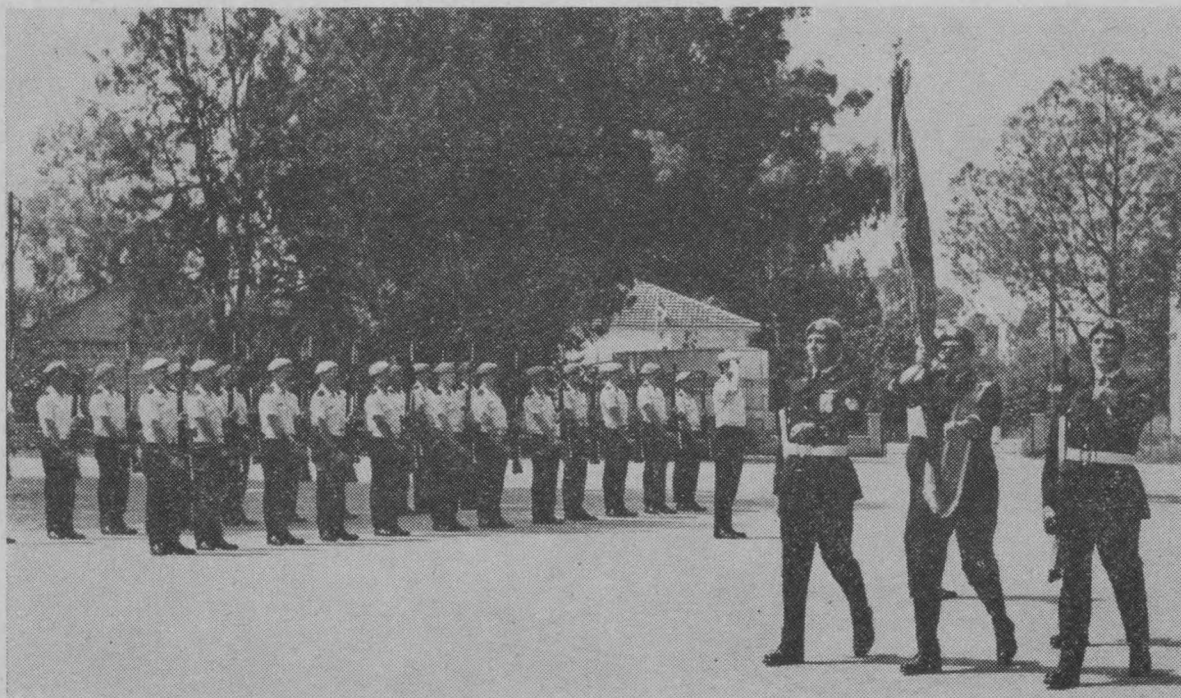
A. D41100B APR 78

B. GR WD 3222 9300

C. AS OF 1100B HRS
LCOL L.W. MACKENZIE
CO 1 PPCLI
ACCEPTS CHANGE OF
COMMAND FROM
LCOL MACPHEARSON
CO 2RCR
AC COMMANDER OF
SECTOR 4
UNDER THE AUSPICES
OF COL CARLSON.

D. OPS.

And so it is entered in the daily log at sector 4 HQ at Wolsley Barracks Nicosia Cyprus. Reading between the lines it is found that the change of command was performed under the warm welcoming Cypriot sun and it was thought it was actually trying to convince the RCR to stay a while longer after their endurance of the harsh winter. As for the parade, it seems it did not take too long for the 2 RCR RSM to get a sound grip on the two contin-



gents and whip them into shape.

The Change of Command parade took shape in the following format: In front of two platoons (one platoon of 2 RCR and the other 1 PPCLI commanded by their respective commanders) the RCR Regimental Colour was marched on.

There in the bright sunlight the CO's put their signatures to the change of command docu-

ment which was then acknowledged by the Canadian Contingent Commander.

The RCR Colour to the signing had been marched off of start its long awaited journey home to Gagetown. As LCol MacKenzie marched out to take his command position on the parade square the atmosphere was immediately energized with the sense that PPCLI was here and in command.